



MATERNAL WARNING SIGNS

Guidance on Use of Patient Education Resources

The **intent and purpose** of this Maternal Warning Signs (MWS) toolkit is to place a comprehensive selection of patient education materials, in the hands of all providers, across all sectors and settings, to ensure consistent and repeat messaging on this very important and **critical** health topic.

MWS resources should be implemented:

- by **all** provider types . . . inpatient and outpatient clinical providers, birthing facilities, home visitors, case managers, WIC dietitians, doulas, community health workers, etc.
- for different education and comprehension levels, learning styles, and opportunities for engagement
- in diverse settings, under particular time constraints, and with unique patient needs

The key to decreasing the burden of maternal mortality is for **ALL** provider types to:

- engage in this campaign
- do their part in educating patients and support persons
- provide **multiple doses** of this life saving information

At a Glance – Quick Guide to MWS Resources:

	Brief touch point i.e. routine clinical visit; WIC	Repeat messaging; in combination	Longer period of engagement i.e. home visiting; case management; prenatal education; in-patient	Lower comprehension/ education level	Higher comprehension/ education level	Low literacy, language barrier
Prenatal - Client/Patient Focused <input type="checkbox"/>						
Perinatal – Client/Patient Focused <input type="checkbox"/>						
Postpartum - Client/Patient Focused <input type="checkbox"/>						
Support Person/Family Focused <input type="checkbox"/>						
Signs/Symptoms of Preterm Labor	✓		✓	✓		
Count the Kicks	✓		✓	✓		
Hear Her – You Know Your Body Best		✓	✓		✓	
Infographic – Urgent Warnings Signs	✓	✓		✓		✓
Action Plan for Depression		✓	✓	✓		
AWHONN – Save Your Life*	✓	✓		✓		
Hear Her – Listening and Acting		✓	✓		✓	
Talk About Depression		✓	✓		✓	

All handouts available in English and Spanish.

*Available in multiple other languages

These resources are funded and provided to you by Kansas Title V, as part of the *Maternal Warning Signs Initiative*, launched in partnership with the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative's *Fourth Trimester Initiative*.



Maternal Warning Signs Patient Education Resources – Description and Ideal Use

	Purpose:	Who should use this?	In what setting?	Ideal use:
Signs and Symptoms of Preterm Labor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing and acting quickly on the signs and symptoms of preterm labor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early pregnancy Repeat in later pregnancy before 37 weeks gestation
Count the Kicks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing and acting quickly on changes in fetal movement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3rd Trimester Encourage/assist to download app Follow-up during subsequent visit
Hear Her - You Know Your Body Best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calls out the urgent warning signs Provides tips and prompts for more productive dialogue about one's concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient educator / Nurse Home visitor Case manager Doula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial OB visit Home visit Prenatal education class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where/when there is opportunity for review and conversation about the resource
Infographic - Urgent Maternal Warning Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses easy to understand images to communicate urgent warning signs and what to do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low literacy level Language barrier Brief encounter Repeat messaging
Action Plan for Depression and Anxiety Around Pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focuses on the mental health warning signs Indicates level of severity or concern and need for action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare to a traffic light – red, yellow and green categories of symptoms – for easy digestion
AWHONN - Save Your Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calls quick attention to the urgent POST-BIRTH Warning Signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anyone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting in postpartum period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower comprehension level Lower education level Brief encounter Repeat messaging
Hear Her - Listening and Acting Quickly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides messaging about the urgent warning signs to partners/family/ support people in a pregnant person's life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient educator / Nurse Home visitor Case manager Doula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting where the opportunity to engage partners/family/support persons presents itself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where/when there is opportunity for review and conversation about the resource
Talk About Depression and Anxiety During Pregnancy and After Birth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides messaging about the mental health warning signs to partners/family/ support people in a pregnant person's life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient educator / Nurse Home visitor Case manager Doula 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any setting where the opportunity to engage partners/family/support persons presents itself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where/when there is opportunity for review and conversation about the resource